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FLEET'S ORDERS

No Immediate Bombardment of
Havana Expected.

SPECIAL CABINET MEETING

Proclamation for Blockade of Cuban
Ports.

A CALL FOR VOLUNTEERS

Already Prepared and Will Be
Issued Today.

OTHER MATTERS DISCUSSED

The Cruiser Nashville captured
the lumber-laden Spanish ship Buena
Ventura and towed the prize into
Key West.

Captain Sampson's fleet sailed for
Cuba this morning.

Minister Woodford's train was
stoned while leaving Spain. An effort
was made by Spanish officials to
arrest his private secretary.

The President is opposed to asking
Congress to make a formal declaration
of war.

The President signed the congressional
joint resolution putting an
embargo on coal and other war materials.

A proclamation notifying nations
of the blockade of Havana harbor
was signed by the President.

Gen. L. W. Colby, organizer of the
American Cuban Volunteer Legion,
will offer its services to the government
to assist in the invasion of Cuba.

Col. Wm. H. Nash was nominated
by the President to be commissary
general of subsistence, with the rank
of brigadier general.

Many applications for positions
are being made to the War Department.

Captain Sampson, in command of
the North Atlantic squadron, will be
temporarily appointed a rear admiral.

Lieutenant Commander Cowles
has been assigned to the command of
the cruiser Topeka, on its way from
England.

Conferees representing both
houses agreed on the volunteer army
bill, and the report was adopted by
both houses and sent to the President.

President McKinley was at breakfast
by 9:05 o'clock this morning. Two old friends,
Webb C. Hayes and Gen. Hastings of Ohio,
enjoyed the meal with him. Mr. Hayes is
the son of ex-President Hayes, and General
Hastings was colonel of the regiment in
which Mr. McKinley served during the war.
They had been the President's guests for a
day or two.

It was unusually quiet at the White
House during the forenoon, largely in
anticipation of the assembling of the President's
official council, for it was the regular
cabinet day.

Proposed Declaration of War.

Senator Davis, chairman of the committee
on foreign relations, and Senator Cannon
of Utah were with the President early.
Senator Cannon's visit, however, was of a
largely personal character, but he expressed
the belief that there would be a formal
declaration of war made by Congress tomorrow,
and that it would be put through the
Senate within a few minutes after noon,
when the period allowed by the ultimatum
of this government would expire. He did
not, he said, believe it would be proper
for this government to take such action until
after that limit had expired.

Senator Davis was in conference with Mr.
McKinley for a half hour.

At his conclusion he announced that there
had been no material change in the situation
and that everything was progressing
satisfactorily. He was in an especially
happy mood, and as he drove off for the
Senate jocularly called back, "Please put
me down as reticent. That's what one of
my colleagues in the Senate takes occasion
to suggest sometimes, and just mark
me likewise."

He said he understood the President
would issue the expected call for volunteers
before the close of the day.

Asked as to the probability of a formal
declaration of war by Congress, he said
it was likely that action would be taken
tomorrow. That would allow the Spanish
government the full limit of time imposed
by its ultimatum.

Senator McMillan of Michigan and Senator
Wilson of Washington, Representa-

The Evening Star.

No. 14,086.

WASHINGTON, D. C., SATURDAY, APRIL 23, 1898

TWO CENTS.

GUARD NOW READY

District Troops Awaiting Orders From
the President.

ACTIVITY AT CENTER MARKET

Companies Being Recruited and the
Awkward Squads Drilled.

THE NEW ORGANIZATIONS

Probably never before in its history have
there been such scenes of excitement about
the Center market as now prevail. It
certainly now resembles a citadel more
than a market. Although it is not at all
compulsory, while at the same time the
men have been notified to hold themselves
in readiness to respond to the call expected
to be issued by the President at any
moment to the National Guard, a majority
of the men were at the Center Market
armory this morning. Some in uniform,
some in "civil" dress, but all with looks of
anticipation on their faces.

Special Cabinet Meeting.

Representative Grout of Vermont, after
conference with Secretary Alger, said the
administration would not recommend declaration
of war.

The President read to the cabinet a proclamation
drawn up by Judge Day blockading
the ports of Cuba. This kind of
work is always preliminary to a war, and is
a notification to the countries of the world
to keep their ships away from the blockaded
ports. Under the proclamation no
more vessels will be permitted to clear for
or from the ports of Cuba. It will be only
a few days until this information is known
to ship owners throughout the world. The
President signed the proclamation.

The cabinet had received no official
information of the capture of a lumber ship
by the gunboat Nashville.

Privateering Discussed.

It is said that there was some talk in the
cabinet about a change of front on the
question of privateering. This talk was
based wholly on the possibility that Spain
may resort to privateering against the
opinion of the world. If Spain does resort
to this method this country will at once
retaliate.

The cabinet discussed the subject of
whether a formal declaration of war is
necessary by Congress. Of course, it was
agreed that this question was wholly in the
hands of Congress. The President and
cabinet are of the opinion that war can
now be carried on without another declaration
from Congress. It is considered that the
recent resolution of Congress was a virtual
declaration of war and further that Spain's
action in the case of Minister Woodford
is a declaration of war on her part.

It may be stated that many of the
Republican leaders agree with the administration.

Senator Davis' Opinion.

Senator Davis, chairman of the foreign
relations committee of the Senate, this
morning said: "My own opinion is that a
declaration of war is not necessary, having
already been made in the Cuban resolution
passed by Congress, but I do not know
what will be decided on by Congress."

Senator Cannon of Utah, who was at the
White House, but did not talk with the
President, said: "I think a declaration of
war ought to be made tomorrow, immediately
following the expiration of the time
allowed Spain in the President's ultimatum.
I think a resolution declaring war should
be reported to the Senate at one minute
after 12 o'clock tomorrow, and should be
passed by 12:35, giving four minutes for a
roll call of the Senate."

Spanish Citizens in This Country.
There was no talk of a proclamation
warning Spanish citizens in this country
that a state of hostilities exists and giving
them time to get out of this country. It
was said that Attorney General Griggs had
prepared such a resolution, but this is not
correct. In 1795 this country and Spain
entered into a treaty providing that in
case of war between them Spanish mer-
chants should be allowed one year in which
to take their departure. Citizens of this
country were to be also given the same
privilege. This old treaty is not now
necessary. Spanish citizens living here can
remain so long as they do not become spies
for Spain.

Cabinet members ridiculed a floating
story that Spain has ceded Cuba to Austria.
This would mean that Austria also
wants to fight.

No Immediate Bombardment.

An authoritative statement of great
importance was made to a representative of
The Star by a cabinet member this afternoon.

It was that those people who are expecting
an immediate bombardment of Havana
and bloody fights at once are likely to be
disappointed. The orders to the Key West
fleet are simply to blockade Havana and
such other Cuban ports as can be conveniently
covered by the fleet. No hostile shots
are to be fired into Havana, for a short
while at least, unless the fleet is attacked
in any direction.

The official statement is made that the
administration does not fear an attack
from the Spanish fleet now at the Cape
Verde Islands. The President does not
believe that this fleet will ever move toward
Cuban waters. "Spain would not send this
fleet over to be swallowed," are the words
of a high official. When the same official
was asked if he thought this Spanish fleet
would come to American waters to make
an attack on any port he answered in the
negative. "It would meet the same fate
as if it went to Cuban waters," he said.

He intimated strongly that the flying
squadron will be held in reserve to take
care of any Spanish fleet coming in this
direction.

These plans are based wholly on the belief
that the Key West fleet will not be
attacked by the Spaniards. The war is to
be a bloodless one if such a thing is possible.

A Forward Movement.

In a short time, however, when sufficient
troops are ready a forward movement will
be made by both the navy and army. In
the meantime it is believed by the administration
on well founded information that the
insurgents will harass Blanco and his
soldiers to desperation.

The present situation is likely to largely
swell the ranks of Gomez's armies. He
will get plenty of ammunition now, and
will become bold enough to march almost
to Havana. With Gomez in the rear and
starvation in front, Blanco will have to
surrender or begin an attack on the fleet.

The administration rejects the idea that
Spain will be able to carry coast or aid
to Blanco by warships or vessels of any
kind.

Ladies Offer Their Services.
The members of Ladies' Union, Veteran
Legion Auxiliary, No. 32, of this city, under
date of April 9, sent to the President of the
United States a letter indorsing his course
in reference to the Maine disaster and
Cuban affairs.

The communication was signed by Mrs.
Harriet L. Scribner and was as follows:
"We, the mothers, wives, widows, sisters
and daughters of Union veterans and army
nurses of the war of '61 to '65, who compose
this organization, desire to express our
appreciation of the deliberation and reluctance
shown by you in plunging our country
into a grave war."

"The horrors of the late war are fresh in
our memories, our hearts are still aching
from the loss of our dear ones sacrificed
to preserve the Union, and we witness daily
the pain and suffering incurred in veteran
service, all of which cause the cry of 'war'
to bring terror to our souls."

"Because of this knowledge our nation's
dignity and honor are more dear to us, and
if to maintain them it should be decided
necessary to lay anew the flower of America's
manhood on our country's altar, we, the
Ladies' Union, Veterans' Legion of Washington,
D. C., Auxiliary No. 32, hereby tender
our services to you, to be commanded
in whatever way we can best serve the
interests of our country to the extent of our
abilities."

Mr. J. Addison Porter, secretary to the
President, sent Mrs. Scribner the following
reply:
"I beg leave to acknowledge the receipt
of your letter of recent date, addressed to
the President, the contents of which he has
carefully noted. I assure you of the President's
sincere appreciation of your cordial
and unselfish interest in regard to the matter
to which you refer."

Exciting Scenes.

There was great excitement about the
Center Market Armory of the D. C. N. G.
last night. The armory itself was brilliant
with lights and a large crowd had gathered
outside to watch the soldiers coming
and going. It was momentarily expected
that orders would be issued to call the
militia out, and this was the primary cause
of the suspense. There was some drilling
on the avenue, and the spectacle of men in
uniform walking to and fro caused something
of a sensation. The men were at the
armory until midnight, as they had been
given verbal instructions to be ready to report
at a moment's notice.

Several conferences with army officials
were held by Gen. Harries yesterday, and
it was expected that the militia would
certainly be called out. In all probability the
order will be issued today or tomorrow at
the latest.

It is stated that recruiting among the
different companies is continuing at an
unprecedented rate, and the companies are
being filled up with the full quotas. An
entirely new company has been formed
from raw material. Its captain, G. B.
Young, formerly inspector of rifle practice
for the old Engineer Battalion, has been
busy getting his men in shape. At present
his company numbers about fifty men and
will be known as Company D of the 6th
Battalion.

Light Battery A of the District Guard
has its strength brought up to ninety-
nine, having an accession of thirty-
three new members. It is commanded by
Captain Charles B. Hine, a former West
Pointer. When it takes the field it will
carry with it six of the 3.2-inch guns, like
those used in the regular army. The men
who have been selected for service in this
battery have nearly all had military experience
of some kind. More than sixty-five
applications were refused on account of in-
experience.

Fifth Battalion Recruited.

Of the 5th Battalion, Captain King, Com-
pany 1, has added about forty recruits to
its original quota of forty men; Company
C, 4th, Captain B. K. Sirecki's command-
ing, has added twenty-five new men to its
fifty-two formerly; Company B, 4th, Captain
J. E. Hosford, has added twenty-five
new members to its original fifty-two;
Company A of the 4th, the Emmet Guards,
has added twenty-eight men to its quota of
fifty-three; the Corcoran Cadets, Captain
E. C. Edwards, and the Morton Cadets,
Captain E. B. Chisholm, have each en-
listed about ten new men. Company D
of the 2d, Captain Fred J. Stutz, has added
twenty recruits to its forty old members.

Most of the companies in the guard have
received accessions to their number, and
nearly all of them have filled out to the
quota.

The Brigade Ambulance Corps, com-
manded by Lieutenant W. D. Fales, M. D.,
has received an addition of four or five
members, and the corps is now a full
complement. Lieutenant Fales has given
lectures almost nightly to the physicians,
medical students, pharmacists and nurses
who compose the corps. He has reviewed
the anatomy of the human body; the best
methods of stopping hemorrhages; the best
methods of giving attention to the wound-
ed and the hygiene of camp life. His
corps is divided into corps of squads of
four men each, and each squad is in charge
of a stretcher.

Abolition of Staffs.

It is said that one of the most important
changes to be made will be the abolition
of the battalion staffs and the reduction
of the rank of regimental staff officers
from captain to first lieutenant. The ma-
jors will be retained, but none of the other
battalion officers.

Adj't. Gen. Heyl consulted for two hours
last night with Commissary Gen. Neu-
meyer. It was held in order to effect an
understanding as regards the location and
management of the headquarters of the

(Continued on Second Page.)

CHANGE OF MINISTRY IN SPAIN

vein to Queen Regent.

MADRID, April 23.—The queen regent
has had a consultation with Senors Sil-
vela and Romero Robledo, the conservative
leaders. The former said he agreed with
the declarations of Marshal Martinez de
Campos when the latter said: "There are
only two parties in Spain. One is for peace
and the second is for war. The first has
failed and the second ought now to be
called."

Senor Gamazo, the liberal leader, urged
the Sagasta cabinet to continue in office.
The premier on leaving the palace at 2
o'clock this afternoon declared that there
was absolutely no foundation in the rum-
ors of a cabinet crisis. Senor Sagasta
has received grandiloquent accounts of the
demonstrations in favor of Spain which
have recently taken place at Havana. The
premier during the day announced that the
senate will meet tomorrow and that the
chamber will meet on Monday.

An immense crowd witnessed the mili-
tary parade in front of the palace yester-
day morning, and intense enthusiasm was
displayed when the young king appeared
on a balcony. A big demonstration has
been arranged to take place before the Mil-
itary Club.

CADETS OFFER THEIR SERVICES.

Gov. Tyler of Virginia Wants Troops
at Richmond.

SPECIAL DISPATCH TO THE EVENING STAR.
RICHMOND, Va., April 23.—Governor
Tyler yesterday received a letter from the
cadets of the Virginia Polytechnic Institute
offering the services of the entire corps,
consisting of four companies of infantry
and one light battery, in the event of war.
Inspector General J. Love Stern left last
night for Washington bearing important
letters from General Fitzhugh Lee and
Governor Tyler to the Secretary of War,
asking that Richmond be designated as a
point for the mobilization of northern and
central western troops.

General Lee was at in favor of this
movement until he had a conference with
Governor Tyler and other officials here yester-
day. At this conference it was shown
that Richmond was a good railroad
center for the troops and an excellent place
for General Lee to make up his division,
when General Lee did not longer hesitate,
but urged that Colonel Stern be sent to
Washington at once and set forth these
facts to the War Department.

CUBA IN STATE OF SIEGE.

Late Decree Published by Captain
General Blanco.

HAVANA, April 23.—Captain General
Blanco has published a decree confirming
his previous decrees and declaring the is-
land to be in a state of war. He also an-
nuls his former similar decrees granting
pardon, to insurgents and plotters under
martial law all those who are guilty of treason,
espionage, crimes against peace or against
the independence of the nation, seditious
revolts, attacks against the form of govern-
ment, or against the authorities and
against those who disturb public order,
though only by means of printed matter.

French Fleet Coming West.

BREST, France, April 23.—The Atlantic
naval division of the French northern
squadron is under orders to keep in con-
stant proximity to the Antilles during hos-
tilities.

Paris Passes the Lizard.

FALMOUTH, England, April 23.—The
American line steamer Paris, chartered by
the United States government, and which,
according to report, the Spaniards are try-
ing to capture, passed the Lizard yesterday
evening, and should now be well on her way
west. She left Southampton yesterday
afternoon.

Capt. Bradford Wants a Ship.

A notable retirement from the Navy
Department has occurred in the case of Capt.
Royal B. Bradford, chief of the equip-
ment division. Although he has not held
his present office long and by custom is
entitled to nearly three years of further
service there, he has become so impatient
to join in active service that he yesterday
addressed the following letter to the Presi-
dent: "I respectfully tender my resignation
as chief of the bureau of equipment
of the Navy Department. It has been a
great pleasure to serve during your ad-
ministration in my pending capacity and I
beg to express my thanks for the honor
conferred upon me by your appointment
to such a responsible office. This resig-
nation is tendered only that I may ask for
active service abroad."

Capt. Bradford addressed a similar
letter to Secretary Long with the addition
of a request to have a command of an
active warship. The resignation will be
conferred upon him by the Navy Depart-
ment, and he will be given the honor of
active service as he has long desired.
Capt. Bradford will be given one of the best
of the available ships in the navy.

INSTRUCTIONS TO COLLECTORS.

Directed to Give Notice of the Cuban
Blockade.

Secretary Gage has telegraphed all col-
lectors of customs on the Atlantic, Gulf
and Pacific seaboard that all ports on the
north coast of Cuba from Cardenas to Ba-
hian Honda, which include Havana and
tanzas, and also Cienfuegos on the south
coast, had been blockaded by the United
States. Collectors were instructed to com-
municate this notification in writing to all
foreign consuls in their respective districts
and to the masters of all vessels applying
for clearance to the blockaded port or
ports in the vicinity.

The instructions will prevent loss to ship-
pers and ship owners, and at the same time
simplify the work of the blockading squad-
ron. Collectors were also instructed to
telegraph the names of all Spanish vessels
in their districts, but it is believed that few
now remain in American ports.

Mr. Schermerhorn's Offer.

Secretary Long has been notified by Mr.
F. Augustus Schermerhorn of New York
that he will give his steam launch Free
Lance to the government for nothing. This
patriotic gift has been acknowledged by
Secretary Long in a letter expressing the
thanks of the Navy Department. The
Free Lance is an exceptionally good yacht
for naval purposes, and she has already
been listed among those which the govern-
ment desires to purchase. She is 130
feet long, and is said to be very fast. This
is the first outright gift of a ship to the
navy, and it is in rather marked contrast
with the terms of acquisition of other
steam yachts, tugs, etc.

Testing Armor Plate.
At Indian Head yesterday a trial was
made of a turret plate representing the
armor of the battle ship Kearsarge. The
plate varied from fifteen to seventeen
inches in thickness and was attacked by
two shots from a 12-inch gun, the first at
a velocity of 1,312 feet per second pen-
etrating thirteen inches and a second at
1,780 getting through the plate, but not
the backing. As a result the government
accepted 510 tons of the armor.

If you want to buy, sell
or exchange anything,
lease property or rent
rooms, want a situation or
want help, it will pay you
to announce the fact in the
advertising columns of The
Star. They are closely
studied by more than three
times as many people as
read any other paper.

EXTRA

12:50 O'CLOCK P.M.

MEN NOW WANTED

A Call For One Hundred and
Twenty-Five Thousand

VOLUNTEERS ARE ASKED FOR

To Serve for Two Years, Unless
Sooner Discharged.

A CHANCE FOR PATRIOTS

The Quota of the Different States
and Territories.

TEXT OF THE DOCUMENT

The President today issued the fol-
lowing proclamation calling for 125-
000 troops to serve two years:
By the President of the United
States—A Proclamation:

Whereas, by a joint resolution of
Congress approved on the 20th day
of April, 1898, entitled "Joint resolu-
tion for the recognition of the in-
dependence of the people of Cuba,
demanding that the government of
Spain relinquish its authority and
government in the Island of Cuba,
and to withdraw its land and naval
forces from Cuba and Cuban waters,
and directing the President of the
United States to use the land and
naval forces of the United States to
carry these resolutions into effect," and

Whereas, by an act of Congress,
entitled "An act to provide 'for tem-
porarily increasing the military Es-
tablishment of the United States in
time of war and for other purposes,'" approved April 22, 1898; the Presi-
dent is authorized, in order to raise
a volunteer army, to issue his procla-
mation calling for volunteers to serve
in the army of the United States;

Now, therefore, I, William McKinley,
President of the United States, by virtue of the power vested
in me by the Constitution and the
laws, and deeming sufficient occasion
to exist, have thought fit to call forth
and hereby do call forth volunteers
to the aggregate number of 125,000,
in order to carry into effect the purpose
of the said resolution; the same
to be apportioned, as far as practi-
cable, among the several states and
territories and the District of Colum-
bia, according to population, and to
serve for two years, unless sooner
discharged.

The details for this object will be
immediately communicated to the
proper authorities through the War
Department.

In witness whereof, I have hereunto
set my hand and caused the seal
of the United States to be af-
fixed.

Done at the city of Washington,
this twenty-third day of April, A. D.
1898, and of the independence of the
United States the one hundred and
twenty-second.

(Seal) WILLIAM McKINLEY,
By the President:

JOHN SHERMAN,
Secretary of State.

ANOTHER CABINET CHANGE.

Judge Day Likely to Succeed Secretary
Sherman.

Secretary Sherman, it is almost certain,
will leave the cabinet. Assistant Sec-
retary Day is his probable successor.

CRUISER TOPEKA IS SAFE.

Vessel in Collision With the Albatross
Is Accounted For.

LONDON, April 23.—The United States
cruiser Topeka is safe. The steamer which
collided with the Albatross has been iden-
tified.

LYING OFF HAVANA

Admiral Sampson's Fleet Will Move
in Closer Today.

NEW YORK CAPTURES A PRIZE

Spanish Freighter Pedro Bilbao
Brought Into Key West.

WAR ON IN EARNEST

Special From a Staff Correspondent.

OFF HAVANA, FRIDAY
NIGHT, via Key West, Fla., April 23.—

Admiral Sampson's fleet tonight
lies twelve miles off Havana to the
east. The blockade began by the
capture of a Spanish freighter named
Pedro Bilbao, at 5:35 o'clock this
evening. The torpedo boat Foote
doing scout duty in shore discovered
the freighter and reported it to the
flagship. Admiral Sampson at once
had the New York steam away from
the fleet in pursuit.

The Bilbao discovered her danger
and sought to scud away. A shot
across her bow from the New York
brought her to and she was at once
boarded by a detachment of marines
and sailors, under Ensign Marble.
The Spanish flag was hauled down
and the ship sent to Key West.

Another steamer found to be fly-
ing the German flag was allowed to
proceed.

Tomorrow (Saturday) morning
the fleet is expected to move closer
to Havana, probably within range of
the guns in the shore batteries.

PEPPER.

PARIS REPORTED CAPTURED.

Another Rumor Is That She Is Re-
turning to Port.

LONDON, April 23.—A report was in cir-
culation today that the American liner
Paris, chartered by the United States government,
which sailed from Southampton
yesterday afternoon for New York, had
been captured by the Spaniards. A second
report said the Paris was returning to
Southampton. Both reports are discredited.
The first rumor appears to have arisen
from the fact that before sailing the cap-
tain of the Paris was warned to run for
the nearest port in case of danger. As to
the second rumor, it is pointed out that
the Paris passed the Lizard at 11:45 o'clock
last night.

LOSS OF TOPEKA DISCREDITED.

Rumor Based on Report of Captain
of the Albatross.

LONDON, April 23.—At the United States
embassy here, and in other quarters, no
confirmation has been received of the re-
port from Falmouth that the United States
cruiser Topeka, formerly the Diogenes,
which left Falmouth on Tuesday evening,
has foundered in collision with the bark
Albatross.

The captain of the Albatross, on arrival
at Falmouth, reported that he had been in
collision with a steamer at midnight on
Tuesday, which afterwards flashed a light
and suddenly disappeared. He expressed
the belief that she foundered, and was
under the impression that she may have
been the Topeka. The news is discredited
here.

WILL CUT CUBAN CABLES.

The Mangrove Leaves Key West With
the Cable Cut.